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**Thank You** to all the producers who participated in our Dec. and Jan. surveys. The results you requested are in this issue.

## HAY PRICES STEADY

The **Index of Prices Received** by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agricultural commodities sold during February was 106 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was unchanged from last month but 2 points (2 percent) lower than February 2001. The All Crops Index was down 5 points (4 percent) from last month but was 9 points (8 percent) higher than February 2001. Prices for corn and oats were higher than last month. Dry beans, alfalfa hay, and other hay were unchanged. Feed barley prices were down slightly. The All Livestock Index was up 3 points (3 percent) from last month but was down 4 points (4 percent) from last year. Cow and calf prices and lamb prices were higher than last month but steer and heifer price and sheep prices were lower. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes.

The **Index of Prices Received for Livestock**, at 104, was up 3 points from last month but was 4 points below last February. Sheep prices, at \$32.00 per hundredweight, were \$3.00 lower than last month and \$14.90 lower

than last year. Lamb prices averaged \$69.00 per hundredweight, 40 cents higher than last month but \$17.40 lower than February 2001. Steer and heifer prices, at \$84.00 were down 50 cents from January and \$2.40 lower than last year. Cow prices, at \$41.60 per hundredweight, were up \$2.90 from last month but were \$2.20 lower than February 2001. Calf prices averaged \$104.00 per hundredweight, up \$2.00 from last month but \$6.00 lower than last year.

The **Index of Prices Received for Crops**, at 115, was down 5 points from last month but 9 points higher than last year. Both alfalfa hay and other hay prices were unchanged from last month at \$114.00 and \$108.00 respectively. Both were also \$13.00 higher than last year. The average corn price, at \$2.20 per bushel, was up 4 cent from last month and 35 cents higher than February 2001. Oats averaged \$1.75 per bushel, up 10 cents from January but 1 cent lower than last year. Feed barley averaged \$1.90 per bushel, down 2 cents from last month and 13 cents lower than last February. Wheat, at \$2.70 per bushel, was down 6 cents from last month and 24 cents lower than February 2001. Dry beans averaged \$25.00 per hundredweight, unchanged from last month and \$9.75 higher than last year.

**UNITED STATES:** The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February was 99, using a 1990-92=100 base period, up 4 points (4 percent) from the January Index. Price increases for lettuce, cattle, broccoli, and potatoes more than offset decreased prices for broilers, tomatoes, peanuts and eggs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher marketings for milk, cattle, broilers, and hogs more than offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and wheat. Compared with February 2001, the All Farm Products Index was down 1 point (1 percent). Lower prices for cattle, broilers, eggs, and onions more than offset higher prices for lettuce, broccoli, potatoes, and oranges.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, FEBRUARY 2001, JANUARY 2002, AND FEBRUARY 15, 2002								
U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY								
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		FEB 2001	JAN 2002	FEB 15 2002	FEB 2001	JAN 2002	FEB 15 2002	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
<b>LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS</b>								
Cows	100#	43.80	38.70	41.60	42.80	38.00	40.70	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	86.40	84.50	84.00	78.70	71.20	74.10	—
Calves	100#	110.00	102.00	104.00	109.00	102.00	104.00	50
Sheep	100#	46.90	35.00	32.00	47.50	36.20	1/	—
Lambs	100#	86.40	68.60	69.00	80.10	65.50	1/	—
<b>CROPS</b>								
Corn	Bu.	1.85	2.16	2.20	1.96	1.97	1.93	30
Oats	Bu.	1.76	1.65	1.75	1.28	1.91	1.95	50
Feed Barley	Bu.	2.03	1.92	1.90	1.77	1.66	1.76	—
All Wheat	Bu.	2.94	2.76	2.70	2.83	2.87	2.85	30
Dry Beans	100#	15.25	25.00	25.00	15.30	21.10	25.30	54
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	101.00	114.00	114.00	92.90	101.00	99.50	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	95.00	108.00	108.00	71.80	73.70	70.80	—
1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996.								
NOTE: Entire month price is a revision of previous mid-month price except for hay which is always a mid-month price.								
<b>INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS &amp; RANCHERS, WYOMING &amp; U.S.</b>								
1990-92 = 100		WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		FEB 2001	JAN 2002	FEB 15 2002	FEB 2001	JAN 2002	FEB 15 2002	
All Commodities		108	106	106	100	95	99	
All Crops		106	120	115	98	93	101	
All Livestock and Products		108	101	104	102	97	97	

## U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN 2000 RECORD

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during 2001 totaled 4.6 million pounds, down 8 percent from the 5.0 million pounds in 2000. A total of 5,500 *cattle* were slaughtered in 2001, down 400 head from 2000. In 2001, 4,400 *hogs* and *pigs* were processed, down from 5,300 in 2000. A total of 1,400 *sheep* and *lambs* were processed in 2001, unchanged from a year earlier.

**UNITED STATES: Red meat production** in commercial plants and on farms for the United States totaled 45.8 billion pounds in 2001, slightly lower than the record high set in 2000. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 45.7 billion pounds.

**Beef production**, at 26.2 billion pounds, fell 3 percent below the record high set last year. **Veal production** totaled 204 million pounds, down 9 percent from last year and a new record low. **Pork production**, at 19.2 billion pounds, was slightly below the record high set in 1999. **Lamb and mutton production** totaled 228 million pounds, fell 3 percent below a year ago and a new record low.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** during 2001 totaled 35.4 million head, down 2 percent from 2000. **Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 98.0 million head, virtually unchanged from 2000. **Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter**, at 3.22 million head, was down less than 7 percent from 2000.

### RED MEAT PRODUCTION: TOTAL PRODUCTION AND NUMBER OF HEAD SLAUGHTERED, WYOMING AND U.S., 2000-2001

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total 1/
<b>RED MEAT PRODUCTION - 1,000 Pounds 2/</b>													
2000	500	400	400	300	400	300	400	700	500	200	500	400	5,000
2001	500	400	300	300	400	400	400	600	300	200	500	400	4,600
<u>U.S.</u>	Million Pounds												
2000	3,785.6	3,770.7	4,048.2	3,464.9	3,880.9	3,942.7	3,645.1	4,115.8	3,862.9	4,099.2	3,920.5	3,614.7	46,151.4
2001	3,934.7	3,399.9	3,762.3	3,507.5	3,881.7	3,758.7	3,644.7	4,060.5	3,665.7	4,265.1	3,970.1	3,813.6	45,664.4
<b>NUMBER OF CATTLE SLAUGHTERED - Head</b>													
2000	600	500	500	400	500	400	400	700	500	300	600	500	5,900
2001	600	400	400	400	400	400	500	600	400	300	600	600	5,500
<u>U.S.</u>	1,000 Head												
2000	2,935.8	2,936.9	3,131.6	2,783.4	3,177.9	3,236.7	2,962.2	3,259.4	3,034.5	3,141.4	2,929.3	2,716.9	36,246.2
2001	3,002.3	2,580.4	2,918.4	2,714.0	3,199.8	3,120.2	2,942.5	3,239.4	2,808.1	3,162.0	2,903.4	2,779.3	35,369.7
<b>NUMBER OF CALVES SLAUGHTERED 3/</b>													
<u>U.S.</u>	1,000 Head												
2000	92.6	95.0	102.9	80.5	91.9	95.3	98.8	99.8	93.5	97.1	92.5	91.6	1,131.6
2001	91.2	78.8	84.3	74.3	78.6	77.4	83.3	94.2	78.8	93.9	87.3	84.6	1,006.7
<b>NUMBER OF SHEEP AND LAMBS SLAUGHTERED - Head</b>													
2000	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	300	200	—	100	100	1,400
2001	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	300	100	100	100	200	1,400
<u>U.S.</u>	1,000 Head												
2000	282.2	293.6	347.0	345.3	259.6	260.3	243.2	283.6	269.5	278.9	297.0	299.6	3,459.5
2001	268.6	245.4	328.6	290.8	238.9	232.8	243.5	273.4	244.3	289.1	287.1	279.6	3,221.1
<b>NUMBER OF HOGS AND PIGS SLAUGHTERED - Head</b>													
2000	400	400	500	400	400	200	400	1,100	600	300	400	200	5,300
2001	400	300	300	300	300	300	400	900	400	200	300	200	4,400
<u>U.S.</u>	1,000 Head												
2000	8,139.7	8,076.9	8,822.1	7,227.4	7,944.7	7,952.4	7,356.6	8,622.5	8,118.4	8,882.1	8,756.8	8,076.2	97,975.9
2001	8,644.3	7,604.2	8,329.1	7,837.4	7,958.6	7,484.2	7,447.6	8,374.7	7,812.4	9,334.2	8,716.2	8,419.1	97,961.9

1/Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton, excluding farm slaughter.

3/Number of calves slaughtered in Wyoming not shown because of small numbers.

## U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on February 1, 2002. Inventory was 3 percent below February 1, 2001 and slightly below February 1, 2000.

Placements in January totaled 2.17 million, 4 percent below 2001 and 2 percent below 2000. Placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 381,000, 600-699 pounds were 614,000, 700-799 pounds were 734,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 437,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 2.08 million, up 2 percent from both 2001 and 2000.

Cattle on feed January 1, 2002, in the historic 7 monthly States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.9 million, down 3 percent from the previous year but 1 percent above February 1, 2000.

### CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, FEB 1, 2001-2002 1/

State	On Feed Jan 1, 2002	Place-ments Jan 2002	Market-ings Jan 2002	Other Disapp. Jan 2002	On Feed Feb 1, 2002	On Feed Feb 1, 2001
Thousand Head						
CO	1,180	225	215	10	1,180	1,230
KS	2,480	530	540	20	2,450	2,500
NE	2,230	490	405	25	2,290	2,430
TX	2,880	480	500	10	2,850	2,930
Oth Sts.	2,795	441	423	24	2,789	2,851
U.S.	11,565	2,166	2,083	89	11,559	11,941

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

## MONTHLY RECORD HIGH FOR U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during January 2002 totaled 500,000 pounds. This is up 100,000 pounds from December 2001 and up 8 percent from January 2001. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Six hundred *cattle* were slaughtered, unchanged from January 2001. Total liveweight was 689,000 pounds, up 6 percent from January 2001. Average liveweight of cattle slaughtered was 1,144 pounds, 63 pounds heavier than last year.

Three hundred *hogs* and *pigs* were processed, down 100 head from a year ago. Total liveweight, at 77,000 pounds, was down 33 percent from last year. Average liveweight of hogs slaughtered was 260 pounds, 1 pound below a year ago.

Two hundred *sheep* and *lambs* were processed totaling 22,000 pounds liveweight. Average liveweight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 124 pounds, down 15 pounds from a year earlier.

**UNITED STATES:** Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.08 billion pounds in January, up 4 percent from the 3.93 billion pounds produced in January 2001 and a new record high for January.

**Beef production**, at 2.33 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year and a new record for January. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.06 million head, up 2 percent from January 2001. The average liveweight was up 34 pounds from the previous year, to 1,260 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year and a new record for January. Hog kill totaled 8.66 million head, virtually unchanged from January 2001. The average liveweight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 268 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 18 million pounds, was down 7 percent from January 2001. Sheep slaughter totaled 255,900 head, 5 percent below last year. The average liveweight was 140 pounds, down 3 pounds from January a year ago.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, JANUARY 2001 AND 2002, Wyoming and U.S.										
SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Jan 2001	Jan 2002	Jan 2001	Jan 2002	% 02/01	Jan 2001	Jan 2002	Jan 2001	Jan 2002	% 02/01
			1,000 Pounds					1,000 Pounds		
<b>Cattle</b>	600	600	653	689	106	3,001,600	3,055,800	3,679,013	3,851,455	105
<b>Hogs</b>	400	300	115	77	67	8,643,200	8,657,800	2,286,307	2,317,054	101
<b>Sheep &amp; Lambs</b>	100	200	18	22	122	268,500	254,900	38,386	35,642	93

## WYOMING HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN

Honey production in **Wyoming** from producers with five or more colonies totaled 2.93 million pounds, down 19 percent from the record large production in 2000. Production in 2001 was still 10 percent above the 1999 total. There were 38,000 bee colonies in Wyoming during 2001 with an average production of 77 pounds per colony. In 2000, there were 39,000 colonies averaging 93 pounds per colony.

Honey stocks in Wyoming on December 15, 2001 totaled 468,000 pounds, down 41 percent from December 15, 2000. The average price received by producers for honey sold in 2001 was 63 cents per pound, up from 59 cents in 2000. The total value of production was \$1.84 million, down 14 percent from 2000 but 13 percent above 1999.

**UNITED STATES:** Honey production in 2001 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 186 million pounds, down 16 percent from 2000. Honey production in 2001 was the lowest since 1989, when 181 million pounds was produced with a yield per colony of only 51.2 pounds. There were 2.51 million colonies producing honey in 2001, down 4 percent from 2000. Yield per colony averaged 74.0 pounds, down 10.1 pounds from the 84.1 pounds in 2000. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested.

Producer honey stocks were 64.8 million pounds on December 15, 2001, down 24 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program. Prices for the 2001 crop averaged 66.9 cents per pound, up 12 percent from 59.7 cents in 2000. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives. The total value of honey production in 2001 was \$127.1 million, down 4 percent from 2000.

## HONEY PRODUCTION AND VALUE, SELECTED STATES AND U.S., 2000-2001

State	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production		Stocks Dec. 15 /		Average Price Per Pound		Value of Production	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000		Lbs		1,000 Lbs		Cents		1,000 Dollars			
CO	29	26	60	55	1,740	1,430	957	529	62	70	1,079	1,001
ID	100	100	47	46	4,700	4,600	2,679	1,610	52	66	2,444	3,036
MT	124	136	88	102	10,912	13,872	4,692	4,578	59	65	6,438	9,017
NE	50	43	87	48	4,350	2,064	2,610	1,115	59	66	2,567	1,362
SD	235	235	121	65	28,435	15,275	12,796	12,220	58	64	16,492	9,776
UT	24	23	41	38	984	874	462	315	60	65	590	568
<b>WY</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>3,627</b>	<b>2,926</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>1,843</b>
U.S.	2,620	2,513	84.1	74.0	220,339	185,926	85,328	64,750	59.7	66.9	132,742	127,060

1/ Stocks held by producers, does not include stocks under loan.

## U.S. FARM NUMBERS DOWN NEARLY ONE PERCENT

The number of farms and ranches in **Wyoming** in 2001 is estimated at 9,200. This is unchanged from last year. A farm is defined as "any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year". The number of Wyoming farms has varied from 8,800 to 9,300 since 1978.

Total land in farms and ranches, at 34.6 million acres, has remained at the same level for ten years. Wyoming ranks first in the Nation in average size of farms and ranches at 3,761 acres. Arizona ranks second at 3,644 acres. In Wyoming, there were 3,400 farms (37 percent) with less than \$10,000 of agricultural sales in 2001. This was the same as in 1999 and 2000. This group accounted for 3.1 million acres or 9 percent of the total land.

**UNITED STATES:** The number of farms and ranches in the United States in 2001 is estimated at 2.16 million, down 0.7 percent from 2000. The decline in farms and ranches occurred primarily in agricultural operations with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 economic class. This is the second largest decline in farms and ranches since the 1.4 percent drop in 1991. Total land in farms, at 941.2 million acres, declined 0.2 percent or 1.9 million acres from last year. The average size of farm increased 2 acres from 434 acres in 2000 to 436 acres in 2001.

The number of farms and ranches during 2001 declined in 23 States, remained unchanged in 22 States, and increased in five States. States losing 2,000 farms during the year were Illinois, Kentucky, and Ohio. Iowa farms declined by 1,500 while Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Washington lost 1,000 farms and ranches.

Overall, farm and ranch acreage declined in 20 states, remained unchanged in 29 states, and increased in one state. Colorado's agricultural acreage dropped by 300,000 acres and Montana's land in farms and ranches declined 200,000 acres during the year. Only Tennessee increased in farm and ranch acreage, gaining 100,000 acres.

## REGIONAL AG LABOR FORCE DROPS 5 PERCENT

The tri-state hired labor force on farms and ranches during the week January 6-12, 2002 was down 5 percent from a year ago. During this period, 18,000 hired workers were working on farms and ranches in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region which includes **Wyoming**, Montana, and Idaho. The total excludes agricultural service workers. The number of hired workers a year earlier was 19,000. Of the 18,000 hired workers, 16,000 were expected to work for 150 days or more and 2,000 were expected to work 149 days or less compared with 17,000 and 2,000 for last year. The average number of hours worked during the survey week was 34.5 compared with 42.3 last January.

The average wage rate for all hired workers in the tri-state labor force during the survey week was \$8.34 per hour, up 62 cents (8 percent) from October 2001, but down 29 cents (3 percent) from January 2001. Hired field workers were paid an average wage of \$8.02 per hour compared with \$8.06 last year. Hired livestock workers averaged \$7.74 per hour compared with \$8.22 last year.

**UNITED STATES:** There were 914,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of January 6-12, 2002, up 7 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 731,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 183,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 7.6 percent of the January hired workforce compared with 9.6 percent last year.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$8.96 per hour during the January 2002 survey week, up 30 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.25 per hour, up 49 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$8.25 per hour compared with \$8.07 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate at \$8.25 was up 38 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 38.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week compared with 37.3 hours a year ago.

**Farm Wage Rates by Type of Worker,  
Regions and U.S., January 6-12, 2002 1/**

Region		Hired Workers			
		Type of Worker			
		Field	Lvstk	Fld & Lvstk Combined	All Hired Workers
Mntn I	2/	8.02	7.74	7.81	8.34
Mntn II	3/	8.54	8.48	8.51	9.15
No Plns	4/	8.34	8.41	8.39	9.00
U.S.	5/	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.96

1/ Excludes Ag Service Workers  
2/ Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming  
3/ Colorado, Nevada and Utah

4/ Kansas, Nebraska, North & South  
Dakota  
5/ Excludes Alaska